

## Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ORM-02 AID-05  
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /052 W  
-----120753Z 046125 /13

P R 120717Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5616  
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY  
USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1272

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1276

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, ZA, RH  
SUBJ: ASSISTANCE FOR RHODESIAN CHILDREN

REF: (A) LUSAKA 1178 NOTAL; (B) STATE 103736 NOTAL

1. LOCAL UNHCR REP. HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM JOSHUA NKOMO, DATED MAY 3 ADDRESSED TO UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES GENEVA. IN THE LETTER, FULL TEXT OF WHICH WITH COMMENT UNHCR WILL BE REPORTING TO GENEVA, NKOMO MAKES THREE-FOLD REQUEST: UNHCR ASSISTANCE IN TRANSPORTING 2000 RHODESIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM BOTSWANA TO ZAMBIA, ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR 1000 RHODESIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN NOW IN ZAMBIA AND THE 2000 TO BE BROUGHT FROM BOTSWANA. NKOMO ALSO REQUESTED UNHCR TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FROM INTERESTED DONORS FOR THIS UNDERTAKING. LETTER ALSO STATED THAT STAFFING OF THE FACILITIES COULD BE HANDLED BY THE RHODESIANS THEMSELVES. IN PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH UNHCR, NKOMO HAD TALKED IN TERMS OF STUDENTS UP TO 14 BUT IN HIS LETTER RAISED AGE TO 16 AND REQUESTED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL FACILITIES.

2. UNHCR REP IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF MAY 10 APPEARED WILLING TO ACCEPT NKOMO'S FIGURES OF 1000 PRESENTLY IN ZAMBIA  
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AND 2000 IN BOTSWANA AS PLANNING FIGURES. HOWEVER, HE IS CONCERNED THAT PRESENTLY THE GRZ IS THINKING IN TERMS OF A THREE YEAR CYCLE FOR PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF SUITABLE FACILITIES. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO THIS APPROACH, HE IS MAKING A PRELIMINARY SEARCH FOR EXISTANT FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE UTILIZED AND REQUIRE ONLY SOME RENOVATION OR MODIFICATION TO MAKE THEM AVAILABLE MORE QUICKLY.

3. UNHCR REP, WHO HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH GOVERNMENTS MENTIONED IN NKOMO'S LETTER AS POSSIBLE DONORS, WAS INTRIGUED BY A DISCUSSION HE HAD JUST HAD WITH SOLODOVNIKOV, THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO ZAMBIA. SOLODOVNIKOV INDICATED THAT HE WAS FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARDS A SOVIET CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNHCR FOR THE EDUCATIONAL PROJECT. THE UNHCR REP BELIEVES THAT NKOMO HAD RAISED THIS WITH THE SOVIETS. IT WILL BE INTERESTING, HE SAID, TO SEE IF THE SOVIETS AT GENEVA ARE AS SYMPATHETIC TO SOVIET PARTICIPATION THROUGH THE UNHCR AS THE LOCAL AMBASSADOR IS PURPORTED TO BE.  
CLINGERMAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEE RELIEF, CHILDREN, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** SREF, ZA, RH, UNHCR, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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